

Submitted at Public meeting
July 20, 2016
Ambridge Center

I am appalled that the EPA proposes to "clean" only ¹⁶14% of the lower Willamette, leaving ^{84%}86% untouched.

Furthermore, the "plan" for that 14% is to place the dredge spoils along the river under cover. This makes no sense when as late as 1996 we have had severe flooding all along the river, and in an area prone to the earth becoming quicksand during an earthquake.

I haven't found a plan for keeping toxics from flowing from the banks into the river as further pollutants.

I haven't seen the plan for just how the dredging will take place - will it further pollute the river surface, and air we're expected to breathe?

And I don't understand the logic of "natural remediation" when most of the toxics have been in place since WWII. That is by my calculations nearly three quarters of a century, only slightly older than I am. One would think that if the pcb's and dioxin were amenable to resolving by leaving them alone, they would already be of no consequence!

Please stop blathering about costs! The only way that talking about the cost of cleaning this up is having the courage to force the industrial interests past and especially present to pay. Don't listen to the sob stories of such entities as Kinder-Morgan - they can and will afford to pay if they want to continue to use our river! Kinder-Morgan, by the way, has been observed polluting the Willamette during normal operations that contribute to their profits. The Pentagon gets the lion's share of our taxes & is famous for losing trunks of funds - So I'd suggest tapping them as well.

So - Clean it all up, don't poison us in the process, haul it off to a site certified to take toxic waste, stop the further flow of pollutants from the banks of the river, and make the industrial users pay for it all.

~~And since our ~~for the~~~~
Lion's share of our federal taxes go to a bloated pentagon,
~~surely they can be persuaded to pitch in to unlimited~~
~~costs~~